



June 15, 2016

SUPERVISOR HILDA L. SOLIS ANNOUNCES THE 2016-17 COMPETITIVE EXCESS FUNDS TREE PLANTING GRANT PROGRAM

In partnership with the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, Supervisor Hilda L. Solis announces the availability of \$2,000,000 for a competitive grant program in the First Supervisorial District. The program offers funding to reduce heat islands by planting trees. Projects may consist of purchasing, planting and a period of maintaining the planted trees. Priority will be given to projects that demonstrate how planting trees create healthy communities and meet the needs outlined by the Countywide Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment Final Report.

Application materials and more detailed information are enclosed in this packet.

The original Application Packet(s) are due on or before Wednesday, August 10th by 1:00 p.m. at the offices of the Regional Park and Open Space District, 510 S. Vermont Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90020

❖ **How much funding is available: \$2,000,000**

- Minimum Grant Amount: \$100,000
- Maximum Grant Amount: \$200,000
- Applicants may apply for more than one grant

If there are no suitable proposals or if an insufficient number of proposals are received, the First Supervisorial District reserves the right to award less than the available \$2,000,000.

❖ **What types of project and costs are eligible:** Capital improvement tree planting projects within the boundaries of the First Supervisorial District to plant trees in parks, open space areas and other public lands including parkways in commercial and residential areas.

Applicants may request grant funds to cover the costs of obtaining and planting of trees, including planting supplies such as root barriers, if necessary, stakes, tree ties and any site preparation. Additionally, a portion of the grant funds may be used toward improving the health of the existing trees in the tree planting locations. Consideration should be given to species selection and

planting location. Where possible, it is recommended that applicants plant 15-gallon trees to increase survival rates; if applicants plan to plant trees of a different size, they should present their rationale. Applicants should describe how trees will be planted and maintained over time and how they will ensure that trees survive long term. Costs may include the purchase and installation of temporary or permanent irrigation systems as well as provision for the establishment of newly planted trees for a period of three years and contingencies for tree failures.

- ❖ **Who is eligible:** Public agencies, conservancies, and qualified nonprofit organizations in partnership with public agencies. This portion of Proposition A Excess funds is available on a competitive basis. Applicants are strongly encouraged to demonstrate matching funds commitments of at least 25% of the total project cost. Priority will be given to applicants that can provide matching funds, in-kind donations and/or volunteer participation in completing their tree planting projects within the boundaries of the First Supervisorial District.
- ❖ **What is required for the application packet process:** The original Application Packet must be submitted, including:
 - (1) Grant Application Form (wet-signature original form)
 - (2) Grant Proposal Form
 - (3) Resolution (Adopted by the Governing Body of the Applicant; if the resolution pending adoption, applicant must submit a letter verifying that the resolution is on the governing body's agenda for adoption)
 - (4) Site Plan
 - (5) Boundary Map
 - (6) Vicinity Map
 - (7) Grant Scope/Cost Estimate Form
 - (8) Timeline
 - (9) Youth Employment Plan (Adopted by the Governing Body of the Applicant)

Application materials are available on the District's website. (<http://rposd.lacounty.gov>)

- ❖ **When are the Application Packets due:** On or before Wednesday, August 10th by 1:00 p.m. at the offices of the Regional Park and Open Space District, 510 S. Vermont Ave., Los Angeles CA 90020
- ❖ **Project Timeline:** Projects shall be completed within five years of funding approval by the LA County Board of Supervisors. The planting of new trees should be completed within two years of funding approval and be directly followed by a three year tree establishment/maintenance period. Project performance period extensions beyond the five year limit may require approval from the First Supervisorial District. Due to the competitive nature of this program, once a project

has been selected for funding, the Regional Park and Open Space District may not approve any change in the project that substantially affects the use, scope, capacity or service area of the project as presented in the application packet.

- ❖ **For more information:** Please contact Ms. LaTrina Hancock, Program Manager, with the Regional Park and Open Space District at lhancock@parks.lacounty.gov or at (213) 738-3031.